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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011

Letter dated 10 December 2009 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your attention, a letter from the Secretary-General dated 9 December 2009 addressed to me regarding the deterioration of the general security situation within Afghanistan and other high threat locations (see annex).

In this context, the Secretary-General seeks to utilize up to $7.9 million of the proposed budget for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to meet the most highly prioritized security requirements on an immediate basis, as outlined in the attachment to his letter.

I would appreciate your cooperation in bringing this matter to the immediate attention of the Fifth Committee in order to consider it as soon as possible.

(*Signed*) Ali Abdussalam **Treki**

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Annex

I write to draw your attention to the need for the Secretariat to respond to the deterioration of the general security situation within Afghanistan and other high threat locations, which makes it difficult for the United Nations to carry out reconstruction, development and humanitarian activities unhindered.

The existing United Nations protection arrangements are inadequate for the security and safety of United Nations personnel and assets under these conditions. While recognizing that ensuring the protection of the United Nations personnel and assets is primarily a host Government responsibility, the United Nations nonetheless requires additional resources, enhanced capacity and improved institutional arrangements to support their efforts.

There exists an immediate and urgent need to enhance the level of security for all United Nations personnel working in Afghanistan, which is experiencing significantly elevated levels of threat and risk of attack, through the enhancement of perimeter protection; hiring, training and equipping external guard forces; the purchase of protective equipment and vehicles; upgrading facilities; and pursuing approaches to providing necessary safety and security training in a field environment for staff deployed to Afghanistan.

In this connection, I seek your support in utilizing the proposed budget of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan up to $7.9 million to meet the most highly prioritized security requirements on an immediate basis, for the period between 1 January and 30 April 2010. These requirements are set out in detail in the attachment to this letter.

At the same time, it is my intention to use the budget of the Department of Safety and Security for the biennium 2010-2011 to be approved by the General Assembly at its main sixty-fourth session, to meet critical needs in other extremely high threat locations as they might arise.

I wish to emphasize that the proposed ad hoc arrangement is to meet immediate and urgent requirements in Afghanistan. In order for the United Nations to fulfil the full range of crucial tasks expected for the remainder of the year 2010, additional amounts for security needs will be required. I will submit a formal, full and more stable funding proposal at the first resumed part of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, after an in-depth analysis of the United Nations position and security-related requirements in Afghanistan and other countries is accomplished.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

Attachment

Afghanistan costs for 1 January to 30 April 2010

(United States dollars)

Category	*Description*	*Unit cost*	*Total units*	*Total cost*
Protection of facilities	External guards, 4 months	16 667	100	1 666 700
Close protection	Raise, train and equip close protection personnel	165 000	8	1 320 000
Upgrading facilities	Upgrading existing facilities	n/a	—	500 000
Transportation	B-6 type armoured vehicles	140 000	20	2 800 000
Equipment	Personnel Protection Equipment (PPE)	1 500	400	600 000
Training of staff	Conduct the necessary safe and secure approaches to field environment (SSAFE) training for staff deployed in high-risk areas	1 000	1 000	1 000 000
Total				7 886 700